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Applicant(s): P. Bonutti

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For: FETAL TISSUE HARVESTING AND
IMPLANTATION METHOD

PENDING CLAIMS

36. A method of using body tissue, said method comprising the steps of removing fetal tissue from a donor by cutting fetal tissue to separate portions of the fetal tissue from other portions of the donor and moving the separated portions of fetal tissue along a passage under the influence of suction, and implanting the separated portions of fetal tissue in a patient.

37. The method of claim 36 wherein the fetal tissue is removed percutaneously.

38. The method of claim 36 wherein rotating motion is used to cut the fetal tissue.

39. The method of claim 36 wherein reciprocating motion is used to cut the fetal tissue.

40. The method of claim 36 further comprising the step of irrigating the fetal tissue.

41. The method of claim 40 wherein the irrigation and suction alternate.

42. The method of claim 40 wherein the irrigation and suction occur substantially simultaneously.

43. The method of claim 36 wherein the passage includes a filter.

44. The method of claim 36 further including the step of centrifuging the separated portions of the fetal tissue.

45. A method of using body tissue, said method comprising the steps of removing fetal tissue from a donor by cutting fetal tissue to separate portions of the fetal tissue from other portions of the donor and moving the separated portions of fetal tissue along a passage under the influence of suction, and implanting the separated portions of fetal tissue in a patient, wherein prior to implantation the separated portions of fetal tissue are combined with a material selected from the group consisting of tissue grafts, collagen, antibiotics, and bone growth promoting substances.

46. The method of claim 45 wherein the bone growth promoting substances are hydroxyapatite or tricalcium phosphate.

47. The method of claim 36 wherein an adhesive element is added to the separated portions of fetal tissue.

48. The method of claim 47 wherein the adhesive element is blood or fibrin.

49. A method of using body tissue, said method comprising the steps of removing fetal tissue from a donor by cutting fetal tissue to separate portions of the fetal tissue from other portions of the donor and moving the separated portions of fetal tissue along a passage under the influence of suction, adding the separated portions of fetal tissue to a biodegradable material, and implanting the separated portions of fetal tissue in a patient.

50. The method of claim 36 further comprising the step of adding the separated portions of fetal tissue to a polymer.

51. The method of claim 36 further comprising the step of sealing the separated

portions of fetal tissue in the patient.

52. The method of claim 36 wherein at least one of the steps of cutting and implanting is performed under x-ray guidance.

53. The method of claim 36 wherein at least one of the steps of cutting and implanting is performed through a cannula.

54. The method of claim 36 wherein at least one of the steps of cutting and implanting is performed under endoscopic, arthroscopic, or fiber optic guidance.

55. The method of claim 36 wherein the separated portions of fetal tissue are formed into an implant prior to implantation.

56. The method of claim 36 wherein the donor is the patient.